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1. **ICICI Bank Towers Reduces Energy Use by 15% Through No-Cost and Low-Cost Operational Measures**

The 60,000 square meter ICICI Bank Towers in Mumbai, India reduced annual electricity use by 15% using no-cost and low-cost operational improvements. By implementing energy-saving management strategies, such as optimizing lighting controls and ventilation, routinely cleaning filters and coils, and utilizing free cooling and pre-cooling, the building reduced electricity consumption by 1,372,000 kWh per year. In addition, ICICI Bank Towers saves 228,000 kWh annually as a result of an inexpensive lighting retrofit that replaced incandescent and halogen lamps with CFL lamps. The retrofit had a payback of less than one month. Read the entire case study on the eeBuildings website, at http://www.epa.gov/eeBuildings/energy_savings/library/index.html.

2. **Green Buildings Can Save with No-Cost/Low-Cost Measures**

Implementing eeBuildings' no-cost/low-cost energy-savings measures can benefit green buildings in important ways. This was the message of eeBuildings, which in recent months trained members of the Taiwan Green Building Council (TGBC) in Taipei, Taiwan in January 2006 and the India Green Buildings Council (IGBC) in Mumbai, India in March 2006.*

The most obvious benefit of implementing no-cost/low-cost energy-saving measures is that buildings can maximize energy and cost savings. One of the key lessons of the US ENERGY STAR® program is that the most energy-efficient buildings in the US (buildings that are approximately 40% more efficient than average) are not those with the most modern and efficient technology. The most energy-efficient buildings in the US are those with the best operations and maintenance practices.** Similarly, today's green buildings may be *designed* for maximum energy efficiency, but implementing no-cost/low-cost measures ensures that a building *performs* at maximum efficiency throughout its lifecycle.

Another, perhaps less obvious, benefit is that implementing no-cost/low-cost measures helps to build the business case for green buildings. Many decision-makers in the building industry understand the environmental benefits of sustainable design. However, they may not fully appreciate the financial benefits. The quick and significant (up to 20%) cost savings generated by no-cost/low-cost measures provides compelling evidence that green, efficient buildings are good for the environment and the good for business.

* The TGBC and the IGBC are member organizations of the World Green Buildings Council (WGBC), www.worldgbc.org, a federation of national Green Building Councils whose common goal is bringing about a sustainable property industry that will balance environmental, social and economic issues to ensure a viable and valuable industry for future generations. The mission of the IGBC is to usher in a green buildings revolution in India and to become one of the world leaders in green buildings by 2010. Taiwan has been an active adopter of sustainable development initiatives for over 13 years, initiating many activities following the 1992 Earth Summit. Among these was the adoption of mandatory green building design criteria for all new official central government buildings in 2002 and local government buildings in 2003, 'green remodeling' of existing buildings from 2002 to 2003 which included the installation of sun shading devices and ecological protection work, such as constructed wetlands and wastewater treatment and reuse.

** Source: US Environmental Protection Agency *Class of 1999* and *Class of 2001*.

Finally, just as designing and constructing a green building generates public interest and support, reducing energy costs and keeping energy costs low over the long-run is a notable and newsworthy achievement. Buildings that aggregate energy and cost savings information from no-cost/low-cost measures can tell a good story about the operational efficiency and environmental performance of their building that will foster goodwill from tenants, owners, and the general public.

For more information on attending an eeBuildings training, email us at eeBuildings@epa.gov.

3. eeBuildings Meets with Beijing and Shanghai Partners to Explore New Energy Saving Opportunities

In May 2006, eeBuildings met with the China Standard Certification Center (CSC) to discuss developing a program for certifying energy-efficiency in Chinese buildings. The CSC has worked closely with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for over five years as it has developed a Chinese voluntary labeling program for energy-efficient products. Now, eeBuildings is sharing lessons from US EPA's ENERGY STAR buildings program to help develop a new program for certifying energy efficiency in Chinese buildings.

eeBuildings is also moving forward with a pilot program in cooperation with the Shanghai Energy and Conservation Supervision Center (SECSC). In May 2006, eeBuildings trained fourteen Shanghai commercial building property managers on how to assess their buildings for no-cost/low-cost opportunities to save energy. In July, eeBuildings will begin working with these building managers to identify specific no-cost/low-cost energy efficiency opportunities in their buildings. SECSC will provide additional support to the building managers and help track and record energy and cost savings over time.

eeBuildings has also met recently with Chinese municipal government agencies interested in promoting building energy efficiency, including the Development and Reform Commission of Beijing (BDRC) and the Shanghai Municipal Construction & Transportation Commission (SCTC). eeBuildings offered to provide support to these agencies in order to meet their government mandated energy goals for the 11th five-year plan.

4. Help us Build a Better Newsletter

- We'd like to hear about your progress. If you have had successful experiences improving the energy efficiency of your buildings outside the US, please let us know at eeBuildings@epa.gov.

- We are interested in updating our partner list and linking to external websites. Please let us know if you would like your organization name and URL to be added to the list.

- If you have suggestions for how to improve the content of this newsletter, please send them to eeBuildings@epa.gov.

To learn more about eeBuildings, visit <http://www.epa.gov/eeBuildings> or e-mail eeBuilding@epa.gov.

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The US Environmental Protection Agency's eeBuildings (energy-efficient Buildings) program helps international building owners, managers, and tenants improve the energy performance of their buildings. Drawing on the expertise of ENERGY STAR, eeBuildings connects financial and environmental performance to energy efficiency.

This newsletter is produced and edited by ICF Consulting. ICF supports EPA's eeBuildings and ENERGY STAR activities.